

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

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R 201544Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 715

AMEMBASSY LISBON

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SP, PO

SUBJECT: SPANISH PARTICIPATION IN PORTUGUESE SOCIALIST
PARTY CONGRESS

REF MADRID 7551

1. IN KEEPING WITH TREND SINCE APRIL MILITARY UPRISING
SPANISH PRESS, IN PARTICULAR, INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS,
HAVE REPORTED FULLY ON CONGRESS HELD BY PORTUGUESE
SOCIALIST PARTY (PSP) DEC 13-14. EMBASSY HAS NOTED
THAT LEADERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS SPANISH
SOCIALIST TENDENCIES (TRADITIONAL PSOE, POPULAR
SOCIALIST PARTY OF TIerno GALVAN, AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS
LED BY DIONISIO RIDRUEJO) WERE AMONG FOREIGN DELEGATES,
WHICH ALSO INCLUDED SANTIAGO CARRILLO, SECRETARY GENERAL
OF SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY (PCE) AND SANTIAGO ALVAREZ,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF GALICIAN COMMUNIST PARTY.

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2. PRESS ACCOUNTS INDICATE THAT MARIO SOARES GAVE MORE ATTENTION TO PCE LEADER THAN TO SPANISH SOCIALISTS, REPORTEDLY AS GESTURE TOWARDS MORE INDEPENDENT COMMUNIST LEADER THAN PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER CUNHAL, WHO HAS BEEN CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH AND DEPENDENT ON CPSU. ACCORDING TO ONE EMBASSY SOURCE, GROUP OF PSOE DELEGATES LED BY PSOE FIRST SECRETARY FELIPE GONZALEZ MADE OSTENTATIOUS EXIT BECAUSE OF SOARES' PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT OF CARRILLO. OBSERVERS HAVE ALSO NOTED THAT CARRILLO HAD NOT ATTENDED PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS A MONTH EARLIER.

3. COMMENT: IT IS PARADOXICAL THAT CARRILLO WOULD ATTEND PSP CONGRESS AND NOT PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS, ALTHOUGH EMBASSY HAS HEARD REPORTS THAT CARRILLO AND CUNHAL HAVE BEEN POLES APART ON INDEPENDENT ROLES ON COMMUNIST PARTIES WITHIN WORLD MOVEMENT. VIEWED AGAINST PCE'S INTEREST IN PROMOTING "DEMOCRATIC JUNTA" OF ALL FORCES OPPOSED TO PRESENT SPANISH SYSTEM, HOWEVER, HIS ATTENDANCE AT PSP CONGRESS PROVIDED USEFUL FORUM TO DISCUSS STRATEGY AND TACTICS WITH ALL SHADES OF SPANISH SOCIALISTS, AND PERHAPS SOME LEFT-WING CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS WHO MAY HAVE ALSO BEEN DELEGATES. TIerno'S POPULAR SOCIALIST PARTY IS ALREADY IN "DEMOCRATIC JUNTA", BUT PSOE ELEMENTS HAVE SO FAR REFRAINED FROM IDENTIFICATION WITH IT. ATTENDANCE OF POPULAR SOCIALIST PARTY DELEGATES, WHO HAVE HAD FREQUENT CONTACT WITH PSP SINCE APRIL (SEE A-218, NOV 22) ILLUSTRATES INTENSIFICATION OF BILATERAL PARTY TIES WHICH HAVE GIVEN TIerno AND HIS COLLEAGUES A REAL BOOST. EMBASSY HAS HEARD REPORT THAT HE AND HIS FOLLOWERS ARE PLANNING TO SCHEDULE THEIR FIRST CONGRESS IN EARLY 1975 IN PORTUGAL. EATON

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